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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, FEB. 20, 1836.

Inquiries to Readers and Correspondents.

We earnestly solicit at this, and at all times, such of our readers as are practical farmers, to send us for publication, the results of their experiments, giving the details of every important operation in the culture of such crops as have proved successful. Much instruction is always to be derived from such accounts, especially where the cause of success is pointed out and described. The management of all domestic animals would also furnish interesting subjects for such articles; and in short, every thing relative to the farmer's business. To designate more particularly what we desire, we shall mention a few subjects on which we should be glad to receive communications; not however with the intention of confining our correspondents to these subjects; on the contrary, remarks on any thing of common interest will always be acceptable. We are aware that the pursuits of the farmer are more of a practical than of a literary nature, and that many for this reason are backward in giving to the public the productions of their pen; but such should be reminded, that we want FACTS,—and if these may be of value to others, we care very little in what style of language they are furnished.

Information would be gratefully received, for instance, on the application and effects of all kinds of manures—especially of lime, and of ashes—the quantity and kind applied—the nature of the soil operated on—and the results.

Accounts of the culture of large crops—such as of wheat, corn, and other grain—the varieties of wheat best adapted to different soils—the times of sowing—and the quantity of seed.

The immediate and ultimate effects of deep ploughing, and under what circumstances it is of greatest utility.

The best modes of rearing calves—the utility and comparative advantages of feeding and fattening cattle on roots—of feeding swine on apples, roots, and grain—and in short of rearing, keeping, and fattening all domestic animals.

Successful methods of planting and raising hedges, and the actual cost.

The construction of farm buildings, as adapted to convenience and economy.

The best kinds of farm implements.

The most systematic and economical method of conducting farming operations, with a view especially of doing every thing in season.

Fig. 1.

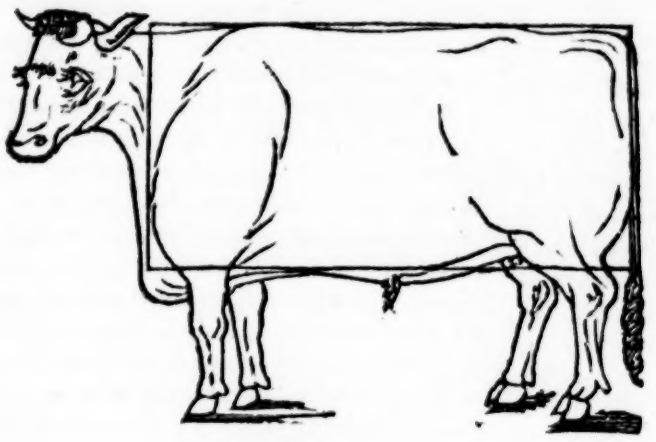


Fig. 2.

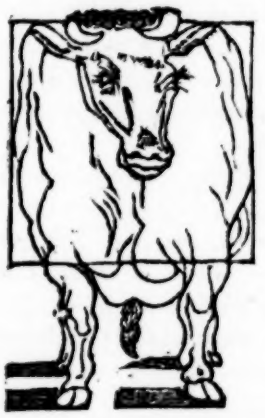


Fig. 3.

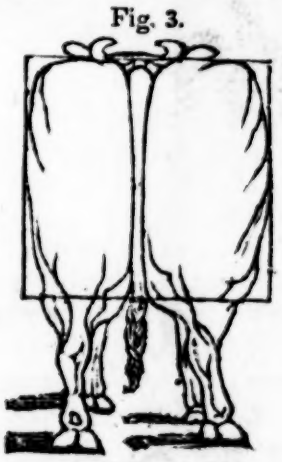


Fig. 4.

On Improved Short Horns.

In the 48th number of the fifth volume of the Genesee Farmer, we made large extracts from an article in the Edinburgh Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, on Improved Short Horns. We now present another extract from that paper, designed to show the symmetrical form of that breed; and those who feel any interest in this subject will not fail to observe the difference between it and most of the cattle of this country. Such a pictorial representation may supply the place of a long lecture.

"When we survey the frame of a Short Horn ox, we have a straight level back from behind the horns to the top of the tail, full buttocks, and a projecting brisket; we have in short *the rectangular form*, as represented in a side view by this Fig. 1; we have also the level loin across the hook bones, and the level top of the shoulder across the ox, and perpendicular lines down the hind and fore legs on both sides, these constituting *the square form* when the ox is viewed before and behind, as represented in Figs. 2 & 3; and we have straight parallel lines from the sides of the shoulders along the outmost points of the ribs to the sides of the hind quarters; and we have these lines connected at their ends by others of shorter and equal length, across the end of the rump and the top of the shoulder, thus constituting *the rectangular form* of the ox when viewed from above down upon the back, as represented by Fig. 4. We have in this manner the form of the Short Horn *ox* and *heifer* in perfect accordance with the diagrams of the rule.

"Further I should be inclined to assert, although I have not directed my attention to the fact sufficiently to be able to prove the assertion from examples, that the carcass of a full fed symmetrical Short Horn *ox* included within the rectangle, is in *length double its depth*, and its *depth equal to its breadth*. Hence Figs. 2 & 3 are squares, and Figs. 1 & 4 each, two similar squares, placed in juxtaposition. The Short Horn *bull* deviates from the rule in a rising of the neck, a dependence under the brisket, and a fullness of the neck vein; the *cow* only a little from the ox or heifer in a thinness in the buttocks, and besides this, when aged, in an enlargement of the belly, and mostly though not always, in a hollowness in the loins. The *form* therefore of the Short Horn breed is perfect according to the rule."

SOWING CLOVER.

Where it is intended to sow clover seed on winter grain, it should be done in the latter part of winter and before the thawing of the ground. It is a common practice to sow it in the spring after the frost has left the soil; but as the ground has in this case become in a measure settled and dry, there is less chance of the seed vegetating,

and as it falls merely upon the surface, it is prevented from taking sufficient root to withstand effectually the coming drouth. But when sown earlier, the breaking and crumbling of the soil by the parting frost, mixes the earth with the seed, and it takes sufficient root before the dry season comes upon it. There need not be any apprehension that the seeds, by germinating too early, will be killed by frost, as they never start below a temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit; which temperature, it is obvious, cannot exist until the ground is thawed.

A great loss always follows the practice of sowing too little seed. Twelve pounds to the acre is not too much in any instance, and where the soil is poor a much larger quantity should be used. Farmers who wish to save expense by sowing only five or six pounds to the acre, lose more than five times as much by the deficiency of the crop; so that it is expensive economy at best. Besides, when clover is sown thinly, the growth is thin and coarse; on the contrary, when there is sufficient seed, the growth is fine and dense, and the stalks are not rejected by cattle, as is otherwise the case. A thick growth also prevents the admission of weeds, which so frequently disfigure thin meadows.

The Road Laws.

In our former article, we submitted for consideration the plan of a new system; and on further reflection we are satisfied that no *efficient* change can be effected unless it be *radical*. The business of constructing and repairing roads, ought to be under the control of men who have studied and examined the nature of such works. Knowledge is power; and this maxim applies as fully and as clearly in this case as in any other. Yet our overseers of highways are appointed on the principle of rotation. No reference is had to their qualifications or fitness for the office, as if to repair a road or to build a bridge required no special qualification! Truly this would be a *strange* state of things, if many of us had not grown gray under its operation. How would it do to appoint each freeholder of this district to serve as blacksmith, or weaver, or shoemaker, in rotation? We put this query to excite attention to our subject, and insist that an overseer of the roads ought to know as many things not *commonly* known, as the others have had to learn in their respective professions.

In reply, it may be said that this office is a *burden*, and therefore it ought to be *borne by turns*. So much the more necessity for abolishing the whole system. No office necessary to the public welfare ought to be a burden on the incumbent, because the laborer is worthy of his hire, and he may readily be made willing by proper rewards. Without such provision, reluctance and neglect must be expected to follow as consequences. Yet such is the office of overseer,—the lowest and the most degraded in the state—where industry may toil without compensation, and merit without honor—and to which the most *unfit* freeholder is equally eligible with the *best*.

In all her *other* public works, the state seems to be aware of the difference between the labors of the head and of the hands—between mental and physical exertions—between skill and drudgery. Liberal salaries have been paid to her superintendents, and her success in such works has been eminent. Into the expenditure of millions on her highways however, she has not introduced the same liberal policy. Any body or every body (almost) have been the scatterers of her taxes, and dearly has she paid for this error. Hereafter she may learn that it is *false economy* IN ALL CASES to employ incompetent persons.

From the contented state of the community on this subject, it is presumed that mud knee deep at particular times, is considered a necessary evil—one that is inseparable from our climate; and which ought to be borne with as much patience as we endure the freezing winds of winter, or the thunder storms of the summer months. We are not of the number however, who think so. We hope that at no very distant day a better state of things will prevail; and that the carriage which rolls forth smoothly over our beautiful *dry-weather roads*, may not have to sink deep in the mire as it returns on the following day. We may be asked, how shall this be brought about? By constructing the roads of *harder* materials. By scrupulously rejecting all sods with all loose soil and all decaying vegetable substances; and (except in sandy lands) by applying nothing but gravel or some equivalent wherever an addition has to be made to the bed of the highway.

By *high*way we do not mean a *high* ridge that has been raised lengthwise in the middle of the road, by the scraper. We consider mounds of this description as an error of the first magnitude in road-making, except in a few places where embankments may be necessary. In our opinion the plough and the scraper, as road implements, have done incalculable mischief, from the circumstance that they are most *conveniently* employed among sods or the soft earth at the way side, and hence the beaten track too often consists of the very worst materials that can be congregated. So long as our roads are subject to showers, so long will our teams occasionally have to struggle through mortar until we provide *harder* stuff.

The ridges which occupy the middle of our roads commonly consist of a thick layer of soft vegetable soil from the sides, spread over the soft vegetable soil of the beaten track as it occurred in a state of nature, so that we have *a double portion* of the very worst materials. Over this foundation is spread an intermixture of soft sods and hard subsoil, "indifferently chosen," as proximity and convenience dictated. Where the road is very narrow between the fences, there is less range among the sods; and being compelled to dig deeper, the overseer commonly procures better stuff; but it is like building on stubble, for during long continued rains, the wheels often cut through into the *bog* below.

We think it probable that many persons have been induced to raise such high ridges, by observing them to be more solid than the low ridges which consist of muck spread over muck. If all such *trash* however, with the soft soil that underlays it, had been scraped off, the operation would have laid bare in many districts *a hard subsoil*, admirably adapted for roads; and if in some places, an addition to the height was necessary, the same kind of materials could have been most conveniently obtained from the side ditches which are wanted to discharge the water that collects in heavy rains.

We have not been able to perceive any advantage in a *ridged* track for wagons. If the ridge was of solid stone it would be different; but the first wheels that pass along, cut in and form ruts, from which the water cannot escape in a lateral direction, but follows the track *lengthwise*, often through great distances; and we have even seen pools of water standing in such roads two or three feet higher than the land at the sides. Such ridges therefore are not drier than well-drained level ground, and are very inconvenient on other accounts. Ridged roads are often so narrow that two wagons loaded with hay would be unable to pass each other. The ruts are more gaping than those in level tracks, and are not so soon filled up in the common course of traveling. When snow falls with a brisk wind, it is chiefly blown off into the side tracks; and if these should be impassible which the improvidence of most of our overseers have rendered so, the sleigh is either laid up, or grinds over the gravel at a time when there is snow enough on the level ground for good sleighing.

We have neither time nor room however, to conclude our observations this week.

Agricultural State Convention.

TUESDAY, February 9.

The Convention met at 3 o'clock P. M. Mr. Van Bergen, from the committee to nominate officers for this Convention, reported the following names:

J. BUEL, of Albany, President.
C. WENDELL, of Washington, Ist V. Pres't.
J. McCALL, of Allegany, 2d do.
L. BRADISH, of Franklin, 3d do.
P. PATTERSON, of Genesee, 4th do.
D. S. DICKINSON, of Broome, } Secretaries.
J. J. VIELE, of Rensselaer. }

This report was unanimously adopted.

Mr. CARROLL, of Livingston, from the committe appointed to report the business to be brought before the Convention, reported as follows:

The Committee of sixteen, who were appointed to consider and report suitable subjects for the action of the New York State Agricultural Convention, have entered upon the consideration of the duties assigned them with a thorough conviction, that the deliberations of this Convention were intimately connected with the interests and happiness of the largest portion of their fellow citizens throughout the state.

To advance these interests—to add new stimulus to industry, skill and economy in increasing the productiveness of our rich soils, and in adding fertility to the poorer; to improve the condition and increase the profits of farm stock of every description; to make the various improvements of husbandry more perfect, economical and useful; and generally to adapt the improvements and discoveries in science to agricultural pursuits, have occupied the anxious attention of your committee; and they regret that their time will not allow them to detail and explain the various reasons and motives which have influenced them in presenting and recommending the following resolutions for the adoption of the Convention:

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide by law for the establishment of a school of scientific and practical agriculture, and that this Convention respectfully solicit the Legislature of this

state to incorporate a Company for the above objects, and to endow said Company with such sum and in such manner as shall be commensurate with the great benefits to be attained therefrom.

Resolved, That an appropriation of public monies to excite industry and emulation in agriculture, to reward those who make important discoveries in labor saving machines, or in other departments of husbandry, or who improve or extend useful methods of cultivation, would tend greatly to increase the resources and revenue of the state, and to promote the diffusion of useful knowledge.

Resolved, That the extensive and increasing ravages of the wheat worm present a strong claim upon an enlightened Legislature, alive to all the interests of her people, to offer a competent premium for the discovery of a perfect preventive or remedy for the ravages of the said worm.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the friends of agricultural improvement in every county in this state to co-operate with this Convention in obtaining Legislative aid in furtherance of the objects of the above resolutions, and also in the speedy formation of an agricultural society in every county where there is not one already.

Resolved, That the existing laws in relation to common roads and bridges are found by experience to be very defective and oppressive; inasmuch as the heavy tax which is annually imposed for these objects, is expended so lavishly, injudiciously, and temporarily, as to produce no corresponding benefits to the tax payers or to the community; and in the opinion of this Convention, the whole system requires alteration and amendment.

Resolved, That the Agricultural publications, entitled the "Cultivator," published in Albany, the "Genesee Farmer," published in Rochester, and the "New-York Farmer," published in New-York, are eminently calculated to diffuse agricultural knowledge, to make known the various improvements in husbandry, and to excite and call forth new and valuable discoveries, and that they are therefore recommended to general attention and patronage, and particularly to that of the farmer.

Resolved, That as property of every description is continually changing hands in a Republican Government like ours, and real property not more productive or valuable than personal, in the opinion of this Convention, all property, real and personal, should be subject to the same general rules of taxation, assessed and taxed equally wherever the same may be, and in whatever hands it may be found, without regard to ownership or indebtedness.

The above resolutions having been severally read, were unanimously adopted by the Convention.

On motion of Mr. VAN BERGEN, of Greene,

Resolved, That the paper entitled the "Silk Worm," published in this city, be added to the list of those recommended to the patronage of the community.

On motion of Judge PATTERSON, of Columbia,

Resolved, That for the promotion of the objects of this Convention, a Central Committee of Correspondence of ten members be appointed, and an Auxiliary Committee in each county in the state.

The persons appointed as the Central Committee, were as follows:—E. Corning, A. M'Intyre, J. K. Paige, S. Cheever, C. N. Bement, A. Walsh, P. Viele, G. S. Corning, J. Holmes and John Townsend.

☞ Since the above was in type, we have received the Albany Argus, containing a more full account of the proceedings, from which we learn that the Convention was addressed by Judge BUEL, and L. F. ALLEN, and C. H. CARROLL, Esqs., and that copies of their remarks were solicited for publication.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Cultivation of the Chinese Mulberry:

Extracts from the letter of Joseph Davenport to William Kenrick, with Remarks.—No. 1.

BY W. W. B.

We read this interesting letter in the October and November numbers of the Silk Culturist with much satisfaction. As it contains valuable information in relation to a subject which is daily growing in importance in the estimation of our countrymen, we take the liberty of extracting the most important parts of it for the columns of the Genesee Farmer, and of adding a few remarks by the way. Coming from the source it does, a gentleman who has had the experience of several years in the cultivation of the Chinese Mulberry on an extensive scale, it is entitled to high regard. A general spirit of inquiry is awakened through our country, in relation to the silk culture. Many are asking information as to the proper mode of cultivating the Mulberry, the profits which may be expected from a given quantity of land set out with it, and from a given amount of labor. A general diffusion of information on these and other points connected with the culture of silk, would be the readiest way to induce our people more generally to go into it. To the person who wishes to set out a plantation of Mulberry, it becomes an important subject of inquiry, what kind of Mulberry would be the best, as to the *quality* and *quantity* of the leaves, and the *shortness* of the time before they may be used, after the plantation is set out. The kind which is acknowledged to be the best on all these accounts, is the Chinese Mulberry, or Morus multicaulis, termed *specifically* by botanists *multicaulis*, (*many stalked*,) from the quantity of shoots which it sends forth. The only query in relation to this Mulberry, as preliminary to its general adoption in the place of the White Italian, is its capability to endure the severity of our climate. Fears and doubts have been entertained on this point, and the destruction of it in many parts of our counrry by the last severe winter, has very much shaken the public confidence in it. But these failures, it is believed, have resulted from a want of a proper knowledge of its culture—of the soil, situation, exposure and treatment necessary for it. This will appear evident from the statements and remarks in the following extracts from the letter of Mr. Davenport, who expresses the confident belief that the Chinese Mulberry, even that brought originally from the Phillipine Islands, (which was the kind cultivated by Mr. Davenport, and which has been proved to be more tender than those raised in this country from seed,) with proper care and attention in the selection of the soil, situation, &c., may be cultivated with success. Notwithstanding the disappointments he has experienced, and the serious losses he has sustained in the destruction of many of his trees by the last severe winter of 1835, he is of opinion, (and his opinion is founded upon an observation of facts, and a reasoning upon just physiological principles,) that it will yet answer, and even exceed, the most sanguine expectations which have ever been formed of it.

But we proceed to our extracts, that the reader may judge of the grounds there are to justify this opinion; and that those who wish to test its truth by experiment may be guided into such a course as will ensure success.

The fore part of the letter is taken up with a detail of his increasing the Chinese Mulberry, by grafting, budding, &c., in the years 1831, '32, '33 and '34. In this part of the letter there are several facts worthy of notice. 1. "Spring of 1831, grafted five or six hundred White Mulberry trees with the Chinese at Parmentier's Nursery, Brooklyn, L. I. About one-third lived—was as well as I anticipated, the trees being set out the fall previous, and every scion set that had the least show of life. Set some in other places with like success. Some being grafted near the ground, were covered with earth as I had previously done with apple trees; and from this and further experiments with clay, learned that this and other trees disposed to bleed, would not live except with cement; and with it the walnut, butternut, &c. had done well." This is important to be remembered by those who would increase this tree by grafting.

2. "Last of August and first of September, inoculated 8,000 trees, the buds from trees set out the same season in a rich garden, and from some trees which were in the same field, and notwithstanding every shoot that would furnish a bud was cut off, the trees put out new ones, and were alive to the top the following spring without protection. This impressed me with the idea, that if the tree would endure such a cutting at this season, that would have killed many of the forest trees, its leaves might be plucked at any time without harm." This certainly was a pretty severe test of the capability of this tree to endure a divesting of its foliage in mid summer, and of its reproductive power again to supply itself with wood for the ensuing season. Leaves are the respirative organs of plants and trees; they perform also the office of elaborating the sap, and preparing it for the growth of the plant; hence it cannot but be injurious to trees to strip them of their foliage in the height of vigorous vegetation. But nature has endowed this tree, as if with a special reference to its use as food for the silk worm, with the property of withstanding this injurious effect to a very great degree, and of rapidly reproducing its leaves. How often in the course of a season it might be mostly divested of its leaves without material injury we know not, but probably several times. In India we are informed several successive crops of leaves are taken from the same field in the course of the year.

3. "The trees budded, being on a low, rich, humid soil, grew immediately, and till they met severe frosts, which killed the most of them—raised the earth above the buds, but to no effect. Mr. Berton's budded trees in the same town, being on high, dry loam, did well. From the 12th of July to the 12th of August, 1833, set twelve thousand buds; the most of them grew six inches, but being on a bad soil, were mostly killed by the severe frosts—might have done better had not the tops above the buds been cut off, which no doubt protracted the growth later." This corresponds with the experience of the present writer. In the month of July, 1833, we set fifteen buds of the Chinese Mulberry on the White, which immediately started; the tops of

the stocks were then cut off; the buds grew from one to two feet, but at the approach of winter all perished but two. The next summer in August, we set twenty more; these, most of them, started in a few weeks, but as the tops were but partially cut off, a fair proportion of them, notwithstanding the last severe winter, lived, and have grown finely the present season.

W. W. B.

LETTERS FROM A FATHER,

Living in the State of New York.

To his Son in Western Pennsylvania.

NO. VIII.

On the Culture of Wheat, Summer Fallows, &c.

To MY SON—I have, perhaps, dwelt too long on the subjects of the preceding letters, yet the subjects were important, and I knew not how to treat them with greater brevity and do them justice. I am admonished, however, that with a pace so tardy as mine has hitherto been, it will require a long time to explore the vast field of husbandry that lies before me, and which I have entered with intent to take a cursory view of every part of it. My attention will next be directed to the culture of some of the most important crops that are usually cultivated in this country. At the head of these stands the wheat crop. As wheat is the most important and valuable crop, cultivated in this or any other country, for human sustenance, it is important that the best modes of its culture, together with all other things incident to its successful cutivation, should be generally and well understood.

The wheat crop is not so accommodating to different kinds of soil as many others. It will thrive well only on soils of a peculiar texture, and some of the requisite peculiarities do not appear to be well understood. In general, wheat does best on clayey soils, choosing rather a soil that is adhesive, and close in its texture. Such in general are the soils of Western New York, especially those parts of it that are the most distinguished as wheat growing districts. Yet wheat often grows well on soils in whose composition very little, if any, clay is perceptible. It is supposed by many, that the presence of lime in considerable quantities is an essential requisite of a good wheat soil. This appears probable, for so far as my own knowledge extends, countries in which limestone abound are generally, if not always, good wheat countries. This theory is corroborated by the fact, that soils naturally incapable of producing wheat, have been made, by the artificial application of lime, to produce that crop to great perfection. But it is not my intention to dwell on this part of the subject.

I am not satisfied that the soil of your farm, or that of Western Pennsylvania in general, possesses all the qualities that are necessary to constitute a first rate wheat soil. Not unlikely there is in its composition a deficiency of lime. There may too be a deficiency of clay. Yet I do not doubt that wheat may be cultivated on your farm, and most other farms in that section of the country, to very good advantage. I cannot doubt that enough of that article may be produced there for home consumption, and some to spare. To you, and to your fellow citizens, it is a matter of no trifling importance that you be well acquainted with all the arts that are requisite for the successful cultivation of this crop.

There are two general methods of preparing ground for the wheat crop. One is, by summer fallows—the other, by the use of fallow crops. It is now generally agreed, by the best practical farmers, that the summer fallow is not the better way of preparing ground for a wheat crop. It is considered as objectionable, because it requires the use of the ground for that one crop the greater part of two seasons. Other objections are offered, particularly that the process of summer fallowing is too expensive, and that by the frequent agitation of the soil during the summer season, many of its fertilizing properties are dissipated and lost, and that by that means the strength of the soil is reduced. It cannot be denied that the objections have weight. Yet I am not satisfied that they are sufficient to justify a total abolition of the practice of summer fallowing. That summer fallowing need not, and better not, be so frequently and extensively practiced as it has been, I readily admit. And if summer fallows can be managed in no better way than they have been, I am almost ready to admit the inexpediency of using them at all, except in some special cases. But I am satisfied, that important improvements can be made in the manner of summer fallowing, when it is practiced on grass grounds, and on no other should it ever be practiced.

Suppose then you have a field of grass ground, an old pasture or a meadow, which you desire to break up, and prepare for a wheat crop. How will you proceed? If you proceed according to the old way, you will turn over the sward early in the summer. Subsequently you will harrow and cross plough this field, taking all the care you can to break the clods to pieces. Afterwards, at the time of seeding, the same process of harrowing and cross ploughing will be repeated. This, with some variations, is the old way. Now I will propose another, and, I believe, a far better way. Let the ground remain undisturbed till about the first of August, or till after harvest, unless harvest comes late. Then turn over the sward in a masterly manner, having a good plough and a good team, and sparing no pains to perform the work in a style of perfection. The sward being thus cut sufficiently deep, four or five inches at least, and every part of it neatly turned over, let it remain so until sowing time, which should be early in September. Then, after having harrowed the ground, put on the seed, and subsequently go over the ground again with a cultivator. This implement is admirably adapted to such uses. It will operate sufficiently on the face of the inverted sward, subduing weeds and grass, breaking and pulverizing the soil, and putting it in excellent order for its intended use, without tearing up, or in the least degree disturbing the sods. Afterwards harrow the ground, and the work is done. If you have no cultivator, the work which I have assigned to it may be performed expeditiously with a plough, so rigged and so managed as to cut only very superficially, and drawn by a single horse. Care must be taken not to plough so deep as to disturb the sods. Thus I have proposed a new plan of summer fallowing, and do you not think it is better than the old one?

I do not know that preparing ground for wheat in the manner above descrived would, by dictionaries and lexicographers, be defined summer fallowing. But I call it so. If this is summer fallowing, then it is my opinion that summer fallowing may often be practiced to great advantage. The advantages of this plan above the old one are chiefly in the following particulars. The work is done with less expense, and generally to far greater perfection—the use of the land for other purposes, pasture or meadow, is continued for many weeks later than it can be when the old method of summer fallowing is practiced—and the sods, instead of being exposed to the winds, and other destroying agencies of the atmosphere, are placed in the very best situation to contribute advantageously both to the crop and to the soil. It is worthy too of remark, that if it is desired to prepare for the wheat crop fields that are occupied as meadows, they may be so prepared, and yet be allowed to produce their crops of grass before the work of preparation commences.

It must be admitted, however, that in places or on fields where there are many impediments to tillage, as stumps, stones, roots and the like, it may not be possible to execute this method of summer fallowing in a style so perfect as to secure the desired results. When, therefore, lands thus encumbered are to be summer fallowed, it may be better to practice according to the old system, yet the work should be done in a style of far greater perfection than it usually has been. After all, I am far from supposing that in your scale of husbandry it will often, if ever, be necessary or advisable to prepare, in any manner whatever, stiff grass swards for the wheat crop. The tender clover lay is a different thing, and will be the subject of subsequent remarks. In general, when you desire to commence tillage on an old pasture, or on a field that has been occupied several years as a meadow, it will be your better way to begin with the corn crop. Yet you need not be restricted to this. If the field be in a good measure free from impediments to tillage, it may be summer fallowed according to the improved method, and thus prepared for a wheat crop, in perfect accordance with principles of good economy.

Whatever may be the plans of operation preparatory to wheat crops, or any others, much will depend on the manner of their execution. In all cases good tillage is indispensable. Many farmers till their grounds so imperfectly, as to derive from them very little or no profits, when with better tillage the profits might be great. Crops frequently fail, or come much short of expectation, when, although other causes are assigned for such misfortunes, they are in truth chiefly attributable to bad tillage.

A good plough and good ploughing, are the first requisites of good tillage. The art of managing a plough is not so easily attained as is generally supposed. To hold and manage a plough skillfully, is indeed an art of very difficult attainment. I do not profess to understand it myself, nor have I often, if ever, seen a man operating with a plough, who appeared to understand this art to perfection. You are doubtless aware of the fact, that within a few years great improvements have been made in the construction

of ploughs. The ploughs now in general use require less draft, and operate, in all respects, to far better advantage than did the ploughs of former times. Every farmer should avail himself of a good plough, and never be content to operate with any other. When grass ground is broken up, whether for wheat or any other crop, the work should not be considered as well done, unless the whole sward is completely turned under. Preparing ground for wheat by the use of fallow crops, will be the subject of my next letter.

A Father.

New York State, January, 1836.

Value of Apples as Food for Hogs.

BY NIAGARA.

"Try it! try it!! I say again try it.—*By one who has tried it.*"

In the Genesee Farmer, vol. 5, page 292, I find the above on the subject of feeding cattle and swine on apples.

When I read the few lines under the above caption, I determined I would "try it," so far at least as the matter of feeding *swine* is concerned. And I have tried it to my entire satisfaction, and the following is the result:

The first of October, I shut up seven hogs for fatting which were about fourteen months old. They had not been fed at all during the summer, except the slop of the kitchen. They were estimated to weigh at that time 150lbs. each, and were worth in this market 2½ cts. per. lb. I set a forty gallon caldron kettle in an arch, about six feet from the front of the pen,—prepared a vat of plank ten feet in length, and placed it against the pen, near the kettle, and commenced the process of boiling apples, mostly sour, to fat my pork. I filled the kettle with apples, putting in a small quantity of water. When the apples were boiled quite soft, I put them, water and all into the vat, adding a bushel of bran and a half pint of salt, mixing the whole well together. With this, and such like only, I fed the seven hogs fifty days. After which I fed them 12½ bushels of soft corn in the ear. December 8th, the hogs were slaughtered, and the weight of the pork was as follows:

220—256—272—276—286—296—298.

Total, 1904 lbs. of good pork; at least such as I sold at $6¼, per hundred. Now who will not agree, that this is a better use of apples than to convert them into cider, or at any rate, than to let them lie in heaps in the orchard or about the cider mill through the winter. My pork account is as below, to wit:

PORK ACCOUNT.	DR.
To 7 hogs weighing alive 150 lbs. each 1050 lbs. at 2½ cts.	$26,25
" 3 bushels apples per day for 50 days, 150 bushels at 2s.,	37,50
" 50 bushels bran at 6d., salt and attendance, say	6,00
" 12½ bushels soft corn at 5s.,	7,80
	$77,55

CONTRA.	CR.
By 1904 lbs. pork at $6¼ pr cwt.	$116,00
Deduct amount of Dr. act.	76,55
	$41,45

I hesitate not to say that such result cannot be produced with the common breed of hogs fatted on any kind of grain.

In 1834, I fatted my pork on peas and corn entirely, and by a careful account of the grain consumed, and of the quantity and value of the pork, I found that the grain alone in the following spring would have sold for more money than the pork, when slaughtered. And your readers may be assured, that this manner of cooking is not attended with very much trouble. A boy of 12 or 14 years of age would pick the apples, and boil a sufficient quantity to last the seven hogs nearly a week.

Instead then of cutting down and destroying our orchards, our true policy is to improve and increase them. So sensible of the utility of this course have some of our most intelligent farmers become, that they are setting out orchards of sweet apples entirely, for the express purpose of feeding the fruit to cattle and hogs.

Yours, &c. truly, Niagara.

Lockport, Jan. 26, 1836.

Mr. Tucker—As the snow has become too deep for out-door work, I will spend a few minutes in writing to you, and if any matters are in your opinion worthy a place in the Farmer, you are at liberty to use them, if you will but put them in a proper dress for the public eye.

Straw and Cutting Machines.

I purchased this winter of Mr. Barton of your city, a *Columbian Straw Cutter*, and altered it so as to go by horse power, with which I can cut (of machine straw) 60 bushels per hour, 3-8ths of an inch long. I find my sheep, which are fed entirely on straw, require 1 bushel to 5 sheep—my young cattle, fed in the same way, 2 bushels per day each—my working horses will eat 2 bushels straw, 6 qts. bran, and 2 qts. oil meal per day. I find my whole stock will eat corn stalks, (cut up at the ground,) cut in my machine without leaving a particle of the stalks. I have not fed a lock of hay since the first of January, and my entire stock are doing well. To my lambs and weaker old sheep, I feed a little oil meal and bran.

I had written thus far when the 6th No. of the Genesee Farmer was received, in which a subscriber at Poughkeepsie requests information respecting the Columbian Straw Cutter. As made by Mr. Barton, it is an excellent machine for hand-power, but the castings, which he puts on to carry the feeding rollers, are not sufficient for horse-power. The rollers should be run by heavy castings or pullies and belts. I have written to Mr. B., stating the alterations I have fonnd it necessary to make to his machine to fit it for horse-power, and I think your Poughkeepsie subscriber, or any other one, will find it a valuable article for straw or stalks, when made according to the plan which I have sent to Mr. B. The price for the largest size machine at Rochester is $30, and made for horse-power will not much exceed that sum, if any.

Canada Thistles.

In answer to the inquiries in No. 6, in relation to Canada Thistles, I will say, my method to destroy them, is, to plough the land deep in the fall, and leave it rough—then again in the spring, immediately before planting, plough and harrow the land—then plant potatoes, hoe them well twice, pulling out all thistles among the tops by hand. After the second hoeing I go through them once a week, and cut and pull all thistles until I dig my potatoes. The ground should be again ploughed in the fall, deep, and the next season ploughed and planted to corn. A few scattering thistles will be found the second year, which should again be cut regularly once a week, and no thistles will be found to live through that season. The crops will pay all expenses, and leave a fair profit to the cultivator, and the ground will be left clear for any future crop. I prefer the above method to the summer fallow, as in order to kill the thistles by ploughing, the ground must be mellow, or many roots will remain in the lumps and clods, and be ready to grow as soon as the ground is left at rest; and if the season is wet, it will be impossible to put clayey land in such condition. I had two acres of thistles in potatoes in 1834, four acres in 1835, and I intend to put in eight acres in 1836.

Carrots.

Mr. Mr. Lauren Beach, of Marcellus, raised last summer on 6¼ rods of ground, 90¼ bushels of carrots, which is at the rate of more than 2,300 bushels per acre. He sold his personal property at vendue, and among the rest, 50 bushels of the carrots were sold, (to one of our best farmers, and one who feeds a good many roots,) for $14, and he was anxious to purchase the remainder at the same price, which is at the rate of nearly $650 per acre. Mr. Beach informed me that he only spent 1¼ days' work on them before he commenced harvesting. His ground was a rich sandy loam.

Highways.

I had intended to have given you my views on the subject of highways and highway assessments, but I perceive by the 6th No. of the present volume, that you have commenced the subject editorially; and I also perceive that Mr. Parker of the Assembly, has reported an amendment to the Revised Statutes relative to highways, and I shall let the subject pass until I learn the features of the bill reported by Mr. Parker.

Skaneateles, Jan. 12, 1836. S. P. R.

MIXED MANURES.

BY S. P.

I would wish to inquire, Mr. Editor, if any of your correspondents have made experiments on mixed manures. It seems to me most in accordance with the vegetable world, that manures should consist of several kinds, particularly for grass lands. A variety of grasses will produce more hay and pasture than one kind alone. The poorer the soil, the less variety there will be in indigenous products: consequently it would seem that rich lands have a greater variety food. If so, why would it not be advisable to increase this quality by the application of mixed manures? Would not such a course render crops less liable to injury from insects and from atmospherical changes? I know practice and science have made progress in the adaptation of homogeneous manures to particular crops; yet this is not positive evidence that these crops would not have been better by the application of a judicious mixture. S. P.

Virtue is a diamond that will ever shine, though it be set in iron.

From the Cultivator.

Farm Buildings and the Consumption of FODDER.

Among all the deficiencies which exist in the perfect management of our farms, I am sensible that none are more prominent than that of proper buildings. Not that I would advocate expensive or large buildings, but those of ample size and convenience for all the *legitimate* uses of the farm, and of such shape and construction as shall conform to strictly economical calculations.

For instance, I would not build an expensive *stone* barn on my farm, when one of wood, equally good for all ordinary purposes, can be erected for a sum not greater than two or three years interest on the cost of the stone one, because a well under-pinned wooden building, where extraordinary warmth and tightness are not required, will endure at least fifty years, and need shingling no oftener than a stone building. So of stables, sheds, outhouses, &c. But not so of dwellings.

The desire of warmth with which human beings are sheltered, forms a prominent part of the comfort and usefulness of life, and therefore all dwellings should be built of the best materials, and constructed in the warmest manner, compatible with the ability of the owner. I have much doubt whether the occupant of an open badly built house, does not pay three times the annual interest of its cost, in the extra fuel and labor consumed to keep its inmates comfortable; and among no class of people have I found so great an inattention paid to these very important matters, as among our moderate farmers; and when the annual losses by disease, exposure, extra labor of obtaining and preparing fuel, and of time in various ways, all arising from a cold and comfortless house, are taken into consideration, I am thoroughly satisfied that a great portion of the profits of a whole family's industry, are annually lost by the wretched houses they occupy.

The great fault committed by most farmers in their buildings, is in the great size of their dwellings. Many who build, calculate to do it *within themselves;* or they get out their own timber, draw their own saw logs to mill, if there be one near them; quarry and haul their own stone, &c. &c., and so manage as to hire but a portion of their mechanic work, turning in their own labor and that of their sons and hired men, if they have them, to assist in its erection. This is as it should be; but the difficulty is that they often plan too largely, calculating on finishing off only a small portion of the house *at present*, and do off the rest at some future opportunity of more leisure and convenience. But these future opportunities of leisure and convenience rarely occur, and so much more capital is often expended in the inclosing of a large dwelling than had been anticipated, or is at all useful to the family, that it remains forever unfinished, and a cold comfortless receptacle for them, when a snug, warm and delightful dwelling could be entirely finished, with every requisite comfort for a numerous family, at the cost of the unfinished shell! How painfully true is this fact in numberless instances!

This fatal error oftentimes extends itself to the outer buildings of the farm, alike prejudicial to all descriptions of stock kept upon it, and of most serious account in the year's results of its products. Fortunately there is so little intricacy or science needed in the construction of farm buildings that even the least skilful may erect comfortable and necessary shelters for all his domestic animals, and materials abound so plentifully in our country, that they are every where to be found. It is better even, in my estimation, for a farmer to sell a small portion of his land, to accommodate the remainder with proper buildings, if he cannot do it otherwise, for he is actually richer in the end to do so; as for the most of them, the produce on an equal number of those acres would be annually wasted for the want of them, besides all the discomfort, misery, and suffering caused by exposure to the inclemency of the seasons. This may be unpleasant argument to those who are intent upon nothing but increasing the extent of their farms, regardless of the comforts or profits of their stock. Yet such, were they to pause in their acquisitions, and by the erection of necessary buildings on their farms, secure more effectually its products, would in a short time accumulate much more rapidly than before. I name these facts with more emphasis, because I am well assured by my observations throughout the country, that the want of necessary and proper buildings is the greatest drawback our farmers experience in the profits of their labor.

Of what avail is it that I reap fifty bushels of wheat, or an hundred bushels of corn to the acre, and lose one third of it for want of shelter, or waste in feeding? Unless I can secure my crop, my profit in growing it is of small account. If I cut fifty tons of hay, and by exposure in stacks to the weather, only forty of it can be eaten by the cattle, and one-quarter part of that even is trampled under foot, I had better have had only thirty tons of good hay in my barn, and even then my stock would have consumed five tons less by being warmly housed for the winter. This is a view of the case which I think must strike every thinking mind, and will apply itself to every kind of domestic animal on the farm. To my own mind it has been most strikingly presented by a year's experience, and I am of opinion that the difference in the consumption of food for the domestic stock of a farm, taking in all the losses incident to the forage itself by want of housing, &c., is at least *thirty* per cent., compared with the most economical method of expending it; and in some cases even *forty* or *fifty!* I am aware that this calculation will strike the reader with surprise, and by many it will not be believed; but to such I only say, try it, and he will become satisfied of its truth.

In the spring of 1834, the management of a large tract of land coming under my charge, portions of which had for years been most miserably mangled by a horde of squatters, who had cut, haggled, and worked the land after their own fashion, although abundantly productive by nature, I found it in a most miserable condition, requiring immediate care and attention. Numerous wretched log cabins were scattered over it with bark roofs; an occasional shed for cattle, with a parcel of old rails thrown over the top, and on them the remains of an old stack bottom, where their hay, stalks, or straw had been stored, were all the buildings or conveniences to be found on the premises. Three or four of these little squads or settlements had been made on different parts of the territory, and each one comprised within its compass from one to two hundred acres of this partially cleared, girdled and dilapidated improvement. Having got rid of the squatters, and selected one of these settlements most conveniently located for immediate operations, and taken the best cabin, well situated and convenient for a dwelling, I put into it a good family, fit to manage the place; built an addition to it also of logs, put on a good shingled roof, and with a hundred or two dollars expense, made a comfortable affair of it. With sufficient help on the place, the fences were straightened and put into line, the old bouks, (*bocks,*) brush fences, logs, &c. &c., cleared up and tolerable crops got in. Having come into the place about the middle of April, it was too late in the season to make rapid advances, but in the course of the summer perhaps 30 acres of oats, 5 or 6 of corn, and as many of potatoes, were cultivated and yielded a tolerable crop. A dozen acres of wheat were also sown in the fall, and perhaps 70 or 80 acres of land worked into tolerable shape for another season. Yet we had no barns nor the means of building any during that year; one wretched log stable, which stood near the house, was all that we had for shelter to any of our animals, and with that we shifted to get along. Our hay, of which we had some 60 or 70 tons cut from a distant clearing, our oats, corn, fodder, &c. &c., were all stacked out in the open air. Winter came upon us. With a few thousand feet of boards and the aid of crotches and poles, we made some sheds and mangers for our cattle, of which we had a large stock, composed of oxen and cows, and erected some racks in the yard to feed them in. By these means we got through the winter after the fashion. Our cattle had enough to eat, and during the cold weather looked tolerably well; but as the cold rain and snow storms of March and April came on they grew poor in spite of all we could do. Food enough to keep in high condition double their number, if well housed, was given them, but all to little purpose. The storms wet the foodder in the stacks, the cattle trampled it into the mud under their feet, and with all the care given them, which was a great deal, I am fully satisfied that at least 25 per cent. of the food given them was entirely lost.

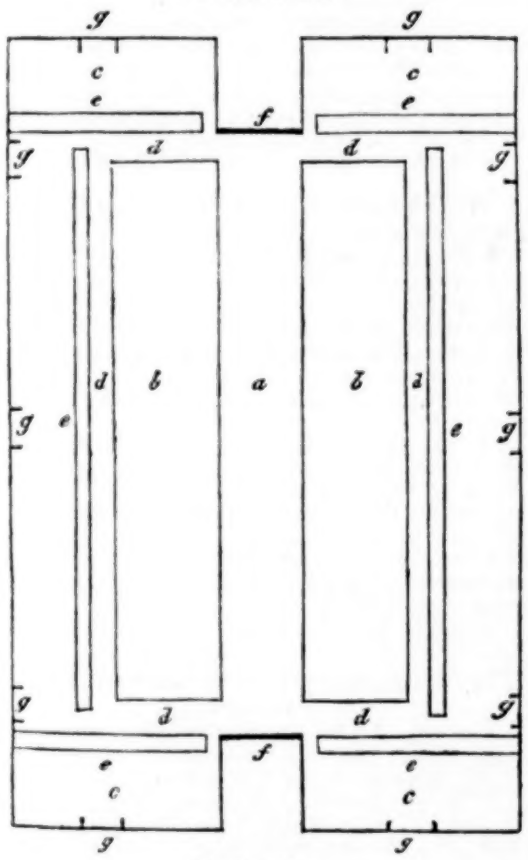
And yet this was better and more economical feeding than one half of the stock of our country get on the average! It may be a bold and sweeping remark, but it is nevertheless a *true* one, and would every farmer make the experiment who thus practices, he would fully test its correctness. We had great labor to perform, and therefore submitted to the loss and inconvenience accruing to this mode of management. During the winter, we cleared up more of this *slashed* ground, enclosing it, drew off its wood and timber, and last spring had perhaps 200 acres of pasture, mowing, and ploughed land ready for use. We were now ready to build a barn, and after the spring crops had been put in, proceeded to erect one proper for the use of the farm. It was soon built, covered and enclosed, and by haying and harvest time was ready for use. It was placed on a central and convenient spot for the farm, which is a large one, and although this barn is 100 feet long, by 50 feet wide, and 18 feet posts, with leantos for stables on each side of it, with a floor 14 feet wide lengthwise through the center, more room will soon be required. It was a matter of much wonder and inquiry by my neighbors who saw the barn, of what possible use it could be, supposing it a most extravagant building, although for the size a very cheap one. Yet when we cut and stored our hay, oats, and wheat, the barn was crammed full to the roof, on the floor and all. We housed every thing; all was put in, in perfect order and good condition. Ample room is there made to tie up every animal to be fed, and not a lock of hay or a spoonful of grain need be lost. The manure is all saved, and in a convenient situation to be carried out, and a degree of economy, comfort, and satisfaction experienced in expending the food to the stock, that amply compensates for all the extra expense. The hay and grain it contains is more than 150 tons, enabling us to feed out every bundle of straw and coarse fodder, which is in most cases altogether lost or only used for manure; a plan of this barn is annexed.

There are so many collateral subjects connected with this barn and other outbuildings of a farm, that it is hardly possible to give an essay on this subject without discussing the different methods and economy of feeding stock, with the preparation of the food, preservation of manures, &c. &c. But as the *principle* of feeding is the same in all kinds of neat cattle and horses, it will apply to all cases. In the first place I hold that there is no straw, corn, fodder or grass cut on a farm, with the exception perhaps of the straw of peas, beans and buckwheat, but what may be consumed as *food;* therefore all reasonable pains should be taken to secure them in good order and have them well stored, and sheltered for winter food. How many thousand tons of valuable wheat straw have I annually seen in our wheat counties thrown out from the thrashing mills, and piled up year after year to rot and taint the atmosphere with its offensiveness, when it might all be made into the best of food for cattle, by being housed and chopped with trifling labor! It appears with many farmers to be a matter of no sort of consequence *who* feeds the stock, or *how* they are fed, provided they are only fed at all; not considering that there is equal economy in expending the food as in securing it. Look at the season of haying and harvest among our farmers. What preparation for toil and incessant labor, increase of help, high wages, &c. &c. Up by day-break in the morning, and at work, and no rest till dark. It is the extraordinary season of the farmer, when every thing is sacrificed, even the Sabbath oftentimes, to toil, and no cessation till it is all over. But when the winter

comes on, this invaluable food, collected at so much cost and toil, is expended with a heedlessness and prodigality unaccountable to any rational or thinking mind. This indeed may seem foreign from the subject of which I am treating, but it is too nearly allied to it to be lost or overlooked.

My own method of feeding is to cut *every* kind of straw, and even the coarse marsh or meadow hay, in the cutting box, and mix it with a light portion of shorts, bran, or oat meal, just enough for the cattle and horses to eat it. In this way they consume every thing. Nothing is lost, for what they leave is taken from the manger and mixed over again with the new mess. It is the exclusive business of one man to cut the food, clean the stables, and feed the cattle; and if he needs assistance, he has it. By this means he becomes acquainted with the appetite and health of each animal, a matter altogether important. If they be out of health, or need extra nursing or attention, he knows it and provides for them. A change of food is occasionally given, and by this operation all is relished and eaten perfectly clean. We now feed about 40 yoke of oxen, 8 or 10 horses, a dozen cows, some sheep and young stock, all in this manner, though not all in one building, without any waste at all. Every thing is saved. Every animal is tied up in its place except the sheep, and each has its own portion without fear or molestation. I well know that they consume less food per head by thirty per cent. than they did during the last winter, when they were fed nearly, if not equal, to the ordinary method practiced throughout the country. Our oxen I am satisfied perform more labor, the cows yield more milk, and all the animals consume less food by being thus housed and attended. But to the plan of the barn. It is here given.

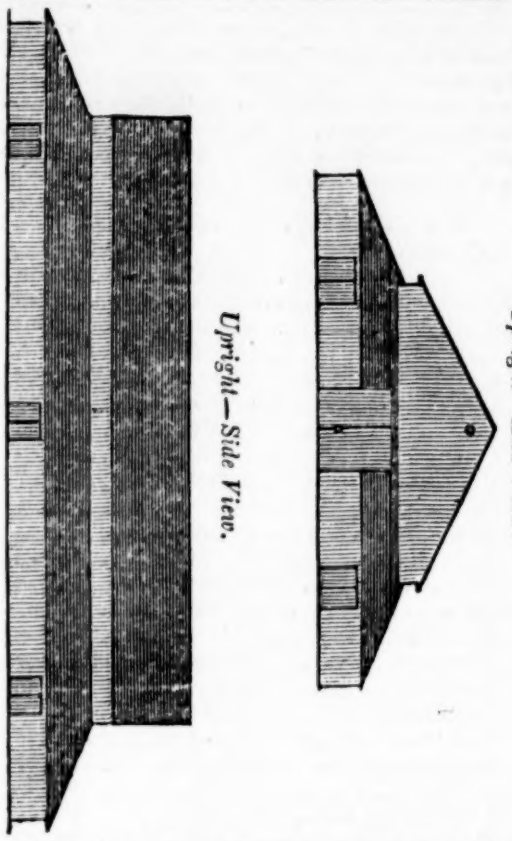
Ground Plan.



Explanations.

a. Barn floor, 14 feet wide.
b. b. Bays for hay and grain, 18 feet wide and 92 feet long.
c. c. Stables for cattle and horses, 13 feet wide in the clear.
d. d. Passages to stables, 4 feet wide.
e. e. Mangers for feeding, 2 1-2 feet wide.
f. f. Great doors, 14 feet wide.
g. g. Stable doors, 5 feet wide, double.

Length of barn, 100 feet.
Width of do. 50 do.
Posts of do. 18 do.
Pitch of roof, 12 1-2 feet.
Height of leante posts, 7 feet.
Pitch of stable roof, 8 feet.
Length of side leantos, 100 feet.
do. end do. 38 do.



Upright—Side View. *Upright—End View.*

The barn is framed so as to stand alone, omitting the lower girt at the ends on each side of the large doors. The leantos are then framed on to the barn in the simplest manner—the passage being *round* the main body of the barn, excepting at the ends, where the passage is *in* the main barn. Only one passage is made to go into the short stables at the ends. Stalls are made 7½ feet wide, and boarded between, and each ox or cow is tied next to the partition side of the stall, which prevents their getting together, and saves much room. The doors are sufficiently wide to drive in a pair of oxen yoked, and large spikes are driven in the plates all round the stables to to hang harness, yokes and chains upon.

The bottom of the mangers are raised ten inches from the floor, and laid double. The sides of the stable are also battened with thin boards inside, which makes them perfectly tight and warm; windows with sliding shutters are made in the sides, to throw out the manure.

Girts run parallel with the main floor in the posts, across which are laid poles, nine feet above the floor, on which hay or grain can be piled up to the peak.

This barn will hold 200 tons of hay and 46 yoke of oxen, or 100 cows or horses. If only ordinary stock is kept, the *long* leantos need be only 18 feet wide, and the *short* ones 14. Granaries can be partitioned off from the bays or stables as may be convenient. If a thrashing machine is used, a part of the stable can accommodate it. Its whole expense, finished complete, is abot $1,500.

On this model barns of any size may be built, and I am well satisfied that, according to the room required, it is altogether the *cheapest* in cost and simplest in construction of any plan I have seen. If a less proportion of stable room be needed, it may be omitted where convenient.

The passages around the ends of the bays and in front of the mangers, are for feeding the cattle, every thing being put in front of them. The passages are wide enough to carry hay, and when the hay is partially fed out, the hay may be thrown directly into the passages.

I would on no account, store hay or other material over the cattle, under the stable roofs, although there is considerable room, as I am satisfied from experience that there is none too much space left for ventilation.

The floors are lined with thin refuse boards, excepting a part of the stables, it being my wish that *nothing be lost.*

This barn is placed on level ground, having no side hill convenient on which to place it. I would prefer, if possible, a sloping piece of ground, and make an ample cellar beneath it, to receive the manure, preserve roots, &c. &c. It will add to the expenses of building, but greatly to the convenience and economy of the farm.

This, it is true, is on a larger scale than is needed for an ordinary farm, yet many farms require as much and a larger quantity of barn room. If every thing be saved and housed that can be profitably expended in the feeding of stock, much more shelter is required than is supposed. If the farm be small, the size of the barns should be graduated to its wants. This plan has been closely examined by many farmers of great experience, and pronounced to be the best they have seen. The utmost possible of room is made for packing the hay and grain, and the stables are mere leantos, made of light frame, attached to the sides and ends of the main building. If wood covering for either the sides or roof of boards and shingles are not to be obtained, they may be made of thatch. The bodies of the building may even be laid up of logs and covered with slabs, so that they be well chinked and comfortable. It is true that there is some waste room over the cattle in the stables, but no more than is wanted for ventilation and to pass off the respired air, which is deleterious to their health. The letting in of fresh air in cold and stormy weather, through the sides of the building, gives them colds and disease, to which they are as liable as the human family. But even if only sheds are wanted, I am satisfied that they are better to be attached to the sides of the barn in the way these stables are, than in any other, being more convenient, and allowing the stock to be fed in them with greater economy. The stables attached to this barn being for the accommodation of working cattle mostly, are wider than need be for an ordinary stock, and may be made narrower. But among all other plans, I have found none which combine the requisites of cheapness, economy of feeding, and storage like this. It has withal an appearance of snugness and comfort about it that greatly embellishes the farm.

If sheds are wanted in addition. They can be attached to the stables and run off in either direction, and accommodated with racks or mangers as may be required. But every domestic animal on the farm should be fed at the barn, with the exception of sheep, which require, if kept in large numbers, a different and separate course of management. The custom of stacking hay or grain in the fields is at best a bad one, and if resorted to, it should be removed to the main barn as soon as the cutting season is over, or there is room in the barn to receive it. Small moveable barns are frequently built to store it in, and from them fed to cattle during the winter; but this in the best of weather is accompanied with waste, particularly in the manure, which is valuable even on the best of soils. It is besides much less labor to carry the hay either on sleds or wheels to the barn, and then feed it to the stock, than to go daily two or three times to fodder it out. So much has been said and written on the wasteful method of feeding at stacks, that at this time it is almost superfluous to mention it.

As to the other ordinary outbuildings to the farm, it is only material that they be conveniently and economically built. No farm house should however remain without a swill house, with a large cauldron set in brick, an ample wood house, wagon and tool house, corn-crib, &c. near by. As to the dwelling, it is a matter of fancy with many, and to those who have the ability, provided they make it comfortable and convenient, it matters little what is the shape, size or style of it. Still there is a model which I consider cheaper and more convenient than almost any other, and for those landholders and farmers who build for the accommodation of their tenants, I consider it a most excellent one to follow. I am about building one on a farm of my own for the manager to live in, sufficiently capacious to accommodate his own family, and half a dozen hired men. Its whole expense will not exceed a thousand or twelve hundred dollars, and if opportunity offers I may send you the plan in some future communication. Most truly and respectfully yours,

L. F. Allen.

Buffalo, December 5, 1835.

Arabs and Arabian Horses.

I mounted for an hour or two my fine steed Tedmor, in order to give rest to Scham. In spite of having undergone two days of a fatiguing route, this magnificent animal sprang forward like a gazelle over the rocky footing of the desert. In a moment he outstripped the fleetest coursers of the caravan. He is gentle and intelligent as a swan, of which he has both the whiteness and the grace. I will carry him to Europe, together with Scham and Saide. As soon as I alighted, he escaped me, and bounded on to rejoin the Arab, called Mansours, who tends and leads him. He reclined his head upon his shoulders like a fond spaniel; there is, indeed, as perfect a fraternity between the Arab and his horse, as there is between us and the dog. Mansours and Daher, my two principal Arab *sais*, whom I had brought from the environs of Baireut, and who had now been in my service a year, are the most faithful and gentle of domestics; steady, indefatigable, sagacious, attached to their masters and their steeds, always ready to encounter with us an impending peril,—what might not an able leader achieve with such a race of men! If I had one quarter of the wealth of a banker of Paris or London, I would renovate in ten years the face of Syria; all the elements of regeneration are there; nothing is wanted but a hand to unite and arrange them, an eye to select a foundation, and a will to guide a people!—*Lamartine's Pilgrimage.*

Orchards and Gardens of Demascus.

The city is entirely surrounded by orchards, or rather by forests of fruit trees, with which the vines are entwined, as at Naples, and hang in festoons among fig, apricot, pear, and cherry trees. Under these trees, the earth, which is rich, fertile, and always well watered, is carpeted with barley, corn, maize, and all the leguminous plants which this soil produces. Little white houses peep out here and there, from amidst the verdure of the forests; they are either the gardeners' houses, or little summer houses belonging to the family who own the ground: These cultivated enclosures are peopled with horses, sheep, camels, and doves, and every thing that can impart animation to the scenery of nature; they are on an average two or three acres in extent, and are separated one from another by mud walls baked in the sun, and by fine quickset hedges. Numerous shady paths, refreshed by fountains, intersect these gardens, leading from one suburb to another, or to the different gates of the city. The gardens form a boundary twenty or thirty leagues in circumference round Demascus.—*Lamartine's Pilgrimage.*

Conversation.

In all your conversation, be careful to maintain *purity* of thought. All aproaches toward what is indelicate, will be at once discountenanced by all good society. Indeed, you can find none who are pleased with it. The vilest person is displeased with *double entendres* And the reason is obvious. None love to have so much disrespect shown them as must be, when you take for granted that they will be pleased with such conversation. It is a downright insult to a man of pure mind and pure morals. And never have I known any thing but disapprobation expressed and felt, on occasions when things thus improper have been introduced, even by those whose hearts were known to be impure. Never allow any thing to drop from your lips which you would be unwilling to have a mother, or sister, or a respected friend, hear you say. Your recitals of facts, and anecdotes, and all that you say for the purpose of enlightening and amusing others, should be *pure in language and pure in thought.*—*Todd.*

Books—Conversation.

"In one respect, and in one only, are books better than conversation. In a book, the mind of the writer is before you, and you can read and re-peruse it in case of doubt, while in conversation a link once lost is irrecoverable. Thus in all reported conversations, unless we are intimate with the mind of the person speaking, we often draw a wrong conclusion, and attribute *that* to discontent, to envy, or some other unworthy feeling, which, if we were in possession of the author's reasons and feelings, we should sympathise with, if indeed we did not in every case acquiesce in, his conclusions."—*Colridge.*

POPULATION OF NEW YORK.

Counties.	1835.	1830.
Albany,	59,762	53,520
Allegany,	35,214	26,279
Broome,	20,190	17,574
Cattaraugus,	24,986	16,723
Cayuga,	49,202	47,948
Chatauque,	44,869	34,671
Chenango,	40,762	37,238
Clinton,	20,742	19,340
Columbia,	40,746	39,907
Cortland,	24,168	23,791
Delaware,	34,192	33,024
Dutchess,	50,704	50,926
Erie	57,594	35,719
Essex,	20,699	19,287
Franklin,	12,501	11,312
Genesee,	58,588	52,147
Greene,	30,173	29,525
Herkimer,	36,201	35,869
Jefferson,	53,088	48,515
Kings,	32,057	20,535
Lewis,	16,093	14,958
Livingston,	31,092	27,719
Madison,	41,741	39,037
Monroe,	58,085	49,862
Montgomery,	48.359	43,595
New-York,	270,089	202,589
Niagara,	26,490	18,485
Oneida,	77,518	71,326
Onondaga,	60,908	58,974
Ontario,	40,870	40,167
Orange,	45,096	45,366
Orleans,	22,893	18,773
Oswego,	38,245	27,104
Otsego,	50,428	51,372
Putnam,	11,551	12,628
Queens,	25,130	22,460
Rensselaer,	55,515	49,424
Richmond,	7,691	7,082
Rockland,	9,696	9,388
St. Lawrence,	42,047	36,354
Saratoga,	38,012	38,679
Schenectada,	16,230	12,347
Schoharie,	28,508	27,902
Seneca,	22,628	21,041
Steuben,	41,435	33,851
Suffolk,	28,274	26,780
Sullivan,	13,755	12,364
Tioga,	33,999	27,690
Tompkins,	38,008	36,545
Ulster,	39,960	36,550
Warren,	12,034	11,796
Washington,	39,326	42,635
Wayne,	37.788	33,643
Westchester,	38,790	36,456
Yates	19,796	19,009
	2,174,517	1,919,132

WILLIAM ATKINSON,
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
17, *Exchange-street, Rochester.*

BUYS and sells Farms and City Property on commission, and attends to the collection of Mortgages.

☞ Several valuable Farms for sale.
February, 1836. feb 20f6m*

Clover Seed.

RED CLOVER of the different varieties, and from different sources, *White Dutch Clover, Lucerne,* or *Dutch Clover,* affording 3 or 4 crops in a season, and some other foreign varieties, constantly for sale at the ROCHESTER SEED STORE by
REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.
January 28, 1836. jan 30-ar3wf4w

Fresh White Mulberry Seed.

100 POUNDS of *Genuine White Mulberry Seed,* raised in Connecticut, and warranted the growth of 1835. For sale at the sign of the "GOOD SAMARITAN."
Hartford, Conn., Jan. 5, 1836. jan 16-f4t*

Grass Seed.

CONSTANTLY for sale at the ROCHESTER SEED STORE, *Timothy* or *Spear, Red Top* or *Herds, Orchard* or *Cocksfoot, English Ray, Pacey's Perennial Rye, Italian Perennial Rye,* and several other foreign grasses, most of which have been successfully tried in this country.

N. B. Cash paid for Grass Seed, Beans, Peas, &c. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM,
No. 5, Arcade Hall.
January 28, 1836. jan 30-arSwf4w

Seed Corn.

THE subscriber has a quantity of the celebrated 12 rowed Dutton Corn, raised by J. Buel. The advantages of raising this corn are its prolific qualities, being easily made to yield from 70 to 80 bushels to the acre, and itsearly maturity, ripening in about 100 days from time of planting.
W. THORBURN, Seedsman,
347 N. Market-st. opposite Post Office.
Albany, Dec. 25.—j9

1000,000 Silk Worm Eggs,
FOR SALE.

THE subscriber having promised to supply so many individuals who called to see his worms at work last year, and he having already sold so many, deems it proper to advise those who have not yet received any, and are intending to have some, that they must order them at once, or possibly they will be disappointed, the demand being so great, and this being the proper season to forward them. They are sold for 25 cents a thousand. Orders enclosing the amount will be punctually attended to.
JAMES HOUGHTON.
Rochester, Jan. 7, 1836. j7f3m

Rural Library.

THIS is a Monthly Periodical of 32 large octavo pages, devoted to the republication of the best works on Agriculture, Gardening, and Domestic Economy. The plan embraces abridgments and compilations, as well as entire works; and for a very trifling sum will insure every subscriber a valuable library, that would, on the ordinary plan, cost ten times the amount. It will be embellished with numerous engravings. The second number will soon be ready for delivery at the Agricultural Seed Store, 102 Barclay-street, New-York.
Feb. 1836.—f4t H. HUXLEY & CO.

Robbins' Planting Machine.

WITH this Machine Corn, Beans, Peas, Broom Corn, Mangel Wurtzel, Turneps, Onions, and seeds of almost every description, can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe. One man may easily plant five acres a day, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and in rows two and a half feet apart.

Machines can be had by applying to REYNOLDS & BATEHAM, Rochester; C. N. BEMENT, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; BUSHROD BUCK, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and DANIEL T. BUCK, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand.
Lowville, Nov. 24, 1835. nov 28-6m

Monroe Horticultural Garden & NURSERY.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hunbred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.
Greece, Monroe co. N. Y. Sept. 13, 1834.